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BOOK REVIEWS

AN INDEX-DIGEST OF DECISIONS UNDER THE FEDERAL SAFETY APPLIANCE ACTS. TOGETHER WITH RELEVANT EXCERPTS FROM OTHER CASES IN WHICH THE ACTS HAVE BEEN CONSTRUED. Prepared by Otis Beall Kent, by direction of the Interstate Commerce Commission, Washington: Government Printing Office, 1910. Pp. XVI and 294.

It is stated in the preface that the volume was prepared by direction of the Interstate Commerce Commission "as a handbook for the convenience of government officials and others engaged or interested in the administration of the so-called 'Safety-Appliance Acts.'" The cases arising under the Acts have been digested and placed under the various alphabetical headings in the index. In an appendix there are given copies of the Acts, together with unreported cases arising thereunder.

The index is, for the most part, well-arranged, the numerous cross-references adding to its completeness. One feature, however, seems of doubtful value, namely, placing in alphabetical order under the heading "Safety Appliance Acts," brief statements of the points of law decided thereunder. A great number of the statements begin with the word "Act" so that as a ready reference to authorities the long list is impracticable, while to thus give the points of law decided is but repetition of what is given in a more complete manner in other portions of the work. It would seem also that the digest of a decision would be more valuable if given in connection with a short statement of the facts before the Court; it may be said, however, that the excerpts are usually of such a character as to convey a clear idea of the points of law involved, and it may be that this is sufficient in a "Digest of Decisions," intended not to be voluminous.

The "Index-Digest" shows evidences of careful, intelligent preparation on the part of the author, and should prove of great value not only to those having peculiar interest in the application of the Acts, but to the legal profession in general.

J. T. C.